

October 4, 2002

Ms. Marguerite Young
California Director
Clean Water Action/Clean Water Fund
814 Mission Street, Suite 602
San Francisco, California 94103

Dear Ms. Young:

Thank you for your letter of August 2, 2002, to Joan E. Denton, Ph.D., Director of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), signed by yourself and representatives from a coalition of four public interest groups (Natural Resources Defense Council, As You Sow Foundation, Center for Environmental Health, and Environmental Working Group) requesting OEHHA to nominate perchlorate salts to the State's Qualified Experts for listing under Proposition 65 as a developmental toxicant. You note that due to widespread exposure in California, perchlorate should follow the abbreviated procedure for reaching the Developmental and Reproductive Toxicant Identification Committee (DART Committee) as described in OEHHA's May 1997, document "Procedure for Prioritizing Candidate Chemicals for Consideration Under Proposition 65 by the 'State's Qualified Experts.'"

Perchlorate is an important environmental contaminant, with widespread low-level exposures potentially affecting millions of Californians. Dr. Denton consulted on this issue with Dr. Marion Miller, newly appointed Chair of the DART Committee, the State's Qualified Experts for reproductive toxicity assessment under Proposition 65. Perchlorate will be placed on the agenda of the next DART Committee meeting, which will be held on December 4, 2002, in Sacramento. The DART Committee will be asked at the upcoming meeting to determine whether it wants to consider perchlorate at its next meeting for listing under Proposition 65. We will provide your letter to the DART Committee as part of the background material for discussion.

Thank you for bringing this important public health issue to our attention. Should you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (916) 324-2831.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by)
Val F. Siebal
Chief Deputy Director

cc: See next page.

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cc: Joan E. Denton, Ph.D.
Director
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

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Senior Scientist
Natural Resources Defense Council
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Mr. Larry Fahn
Executive Director
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